

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 LAB-06 HEW-08 SIL-01 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB, OECD

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR WORKING PARTY ON EDUCATION/ LABOR
MARKET PROBLEMS

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL AND STEWART; EO/ HEW FOR LEESTMA

1. SUMMARY: IF CLEARED NEXT WEEK BY SECGEN, PROPOSAL
TO SET UP " HIGH LEVEL" WORKING PARTY OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS
TO STUDY RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EDUCATION SYSTEM AND
LABOR MARKET MAY BE PUT BEFORE COUNCIL ON JULY 17. WP
WOULD BE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE CONCISE STATEMENT OF
MANDATE FOR FUTURE WORK ON SUBJECT. END SUMMARY.

2. LAHNER, ASSISTANT TO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL ELDIN,
SAID ELDIN HAS BECOME IMPATIENT WITH SPORADIC COOPERATION
AND LACK OF PROGRESS IN LAST YEAR BETWEEN EDUCATION AND
MSA DIRECTORATES IN WORK ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FORMAL
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND LABOR MARKET. ELDIN HOPES TO CLEAR
PROPOSAL WITH SECGEN VAN LENNEP WHICH WOULD GIVE " HIGH
LEVEL" WP OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS SIX MONTHS TO DEFINE FUTURE
WORK PROGRAM IN CONCISE 30 PAGE PAPER. SECGEN WOULD SEEK
COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THIS MANDATE BEFORE SENDING IT TO MSA
AND EDUCATIONCOMMITTEES FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

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EM IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE FORMATION OF WP, SEC GEN PROPOSAL MAY BE MADE EITHER DIRECTLY TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON JULY 10 OR BY LATEST TO THE COUNCIL ON JULY 17. PROPOSAL WILL STATE THAT THE WP WILL WORK DIRECTLY FOR THE SEC GEN AND THAT RESOURCES, INCLUDING SMALL NUMBER OF STAFF MEMBERS (PERHAPS A TOTAL OF 4), WILL BE DRAWN FROM MSA AND EDUCATION DIRECTORATES. THE PROPOSAL MAY ALSO CALL FOR USE OF AN OUTSIDE ADMINISTRATOR TO ASSURE PROPER COORDINATION WITHIN SECRETARIAT OF SUPPORT FOR THE WP.

4. ELDIN NOW CASTING ABOUT FOR APPROPRIATE " HIGH LEVEL" PERSON TO HEAD PROPOSED WP. EDGAR FAURE REPORTEDLY NOT AVAILABLE. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, GASS SUGGESTED ELI GINZBURG OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY OR CHARLES SILVERMAN (AUTHOR OF " CRISIS IN THE CLASSROOM").

5. COMMENT: SEC GEN' S PROPOSAL DIFFERS SOMEWHAT FROM US PROPOSAL LAST YEAR TO MSA AND EDUCATION COMMITTEES FOR JOINT WP IN THAT IT INVOLVES OUTSIDE EXPERTS. HOWEVER, PROPOSAL SEEMS TO MEET OUR DESIRE FOR WELL COORDINATED APPROACH TO SUBJECT AND WILL PROBABLY WARRANT US SUPPORT IN COUNCIL, PROVIDED SUBSTANTIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS SATISFACTORY.

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